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WRITTEN BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
17 JAN 1950

CAERLEON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1948.

- by -

EVELYN D. OWEN,
M.B.,B.S., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health,

- including -

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

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CAERLEON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year Ended 31st December 1948.

Caerleon.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Caerleon Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for your District. It is drawn up according to the directions of the Ministry of Health and includes information obtained from various sources since I did not take up duties as your Medical Officer until 1st January, 1949.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Area. (in acres) | 3405. |
| Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid 1948... | 4752. |
| Number of inhabited Houses (end of 1948) according to Rate Books | 1138. |
| Rateable Value 1/4/48. | £20321. |
| Sum represented by 1d rate ... | £ 79. |

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

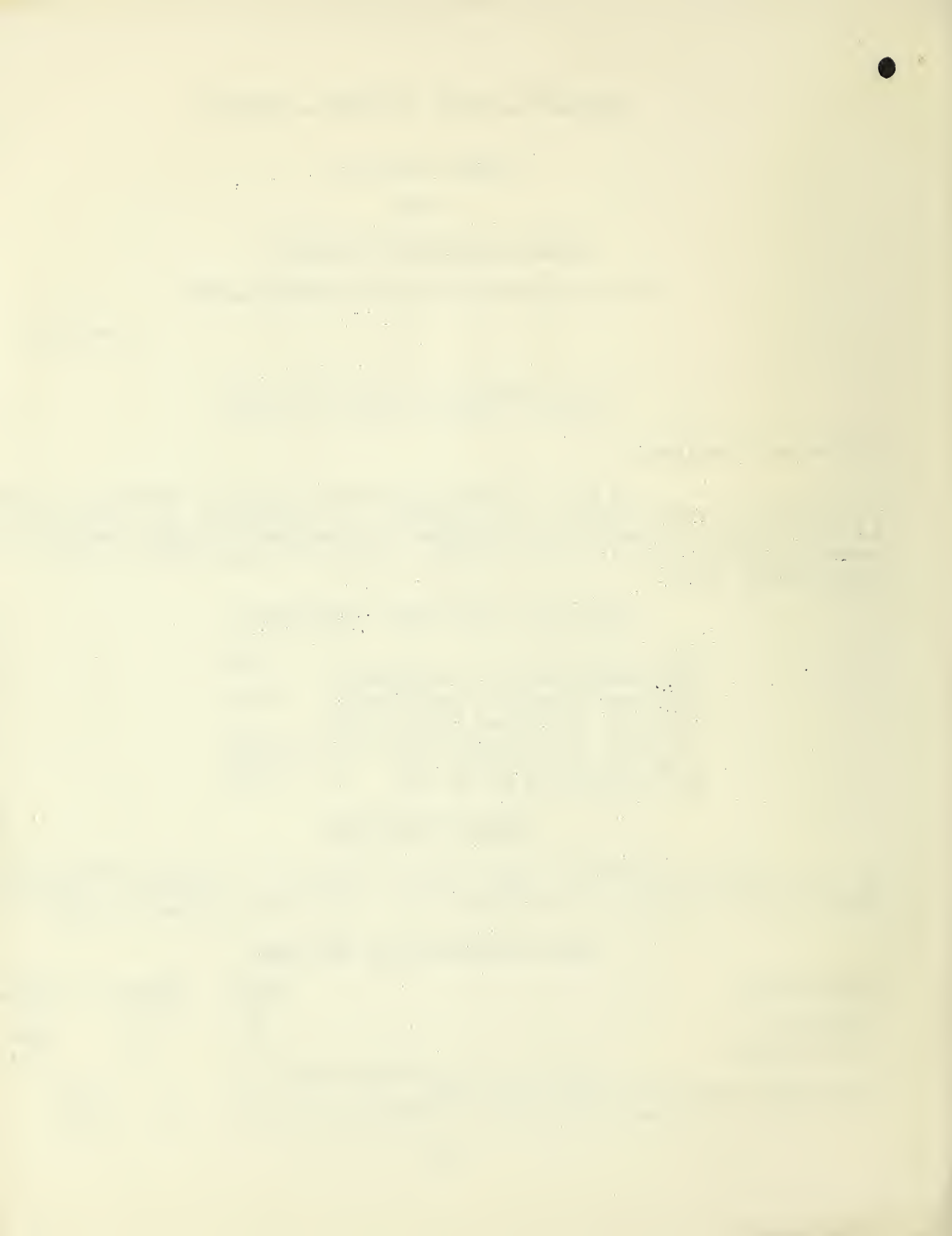
The area consists of an Urban District with a rural character. In the Northern part of the area, which is zoned for industrial purposes, there are, at present, a brickworks and an edge tool making factory.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

| <u>Live Births.</u> | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> | <u>Total.</u> |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Legitimate. | 50 | 41 | 91. |
| Illegitimate. | 0 | 1 | 1. |

There were no stillbirths.

| | | |
|--|-----|------|
| Birth Rate (Live) for year, per 1,000. | ... | 19.4 |
| Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1948 per 1,000 .. | ... | 17.9 |



The number of deaths in the area during 1948 was as follows:-

| | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> | <u>Total.</u> |
|---|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| | 19 | 17 | 36 |
| Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... | | | 7.6 |
| Death rate for England and Wales 1948 | ... | ... | 10.8 |

The causes of death were:-

| | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis..... | 1 | 1 |
| Cancer..... | 4 | 6 |
| Diseases of circulatory system..... | 3 | 2 |
| Cardiac Disease..... | 5 | 5 |
| Bronchitis..... | 2 | 1 |
| Disease of Digestive System..... | 1 | 0 |
| Congenital Malformation..... | 1 | 0 |
| Accidents..... | 0 | 2 |
| Other Causes..... | 2 | 0 |
| | <u>19</u> | <u>17</u> |

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no maternal deaths.

INFANT MORTALITY.

| | |
|---|------|
| 3 Infants died under the age of one year. | |
| Death rate of infants under 1 year of age per 1000 Live Births ... | 32.6 |
| Death rate of infants under 1 year of age for England and Wales per 1000 live births | 34 |

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority:


The staff consisted of:-

- (a) One part-time Medical Officer of Health,
Dr.W.H.Reynolds, M.R.C.S.(Eng.)L.R.C.P.(Lond.)
- (b) Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector,
Mr.D.J.Phillips, M.E., M.R.S.I..

Home Nursing.

The Nursing Association which was affiliated with the Monmouthshire Nursing Association ceased to function on July 5th when the National Health Service Act came into force and the administration of the Nursing Service became a function of the County Council.

Excellent nursing service was rendered by two District Nurses whose work extends into adjoining areas. The same applies to the two midwives.



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Hospitals.

There is a Maternity Hospital in the area administered by the Monmouthshire County Council until July 5th when it was transferred to the Regional Hospital Board.

Ambulances.

Prior to July 5th the Council provided a free ambulance service. Since July 5th the County Council is responsible for all ambulance management. The headquarters of the service is situated within the Urban District of Caerleon, at Cambria House, where the Monmouthshire County Council have established a main ambulance centre.

Clinics.

The Infant Welfare Centre is held in Caerleon fortnightly for a half day session. The Ante-Natal Clinic is held in Newport fortnightly. The school clinics are also held in Newport. These are all administered by the County Council.

Laboratory Facilities.

Clinical material was examined; water, milk and foodstuffs were analysed at the Monmouthshire County Council Laboratory, Newport. On July 5th the administration of this laboratory was transferred to the Medical Research Council.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Public Cleaning.

Refuse is collected over three days each week. The tip is situated on the Usk Road, one mile from the township. This work was carried out by the Council workmen with Motor Transport - a 'Karrier' freighter. During the year the Council placed an order for a new "S.D." Freighter to displace the 'Karrier' which is to be held as a reserve vehicle. Transport is therefore satisfactory.

Smoke Abatement.

No nuisance of this type exists.

Schools.

The Sanitary arrangements and water service to the two local Primary schools and the Monmouthshire Teachers' Training College are excellent.

Factories.

The local factories are kept in sanitary order and controlled under the Factories Act 1937.

Water Supply.

The main water supply is provided by the Newport Corporation Water Department and is satisfactory in every way. There are still many houses and farms using water from wells: these are mainly shallow and dependent almost entirely on surface catchment water and decidedly unsatisfactory. On analysis, the water from some of these wells has been found to be polluted. Appropriate action is being taken by the Council to extend a piped main water service for the outlying districts.

Rivers and Streams.

No action can be taken with regard to the pollution of the River Usk and its tributary, the Avon Llwydd, as the rivers are polluted at the higher levels prior to reaching the Urban area.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The parish of Caerleon is drained into a main sewer and all houses have introduced the water carriage system. The outlying houses have either a cesspool or Elsan Pans where it is not practicable to drain into the sewer. Action is being taken by the Council to lay a main sewer and instal a sewage purification scheme for the district of 'Ultra Pontem' in the Christchurch Parish.

Shops.

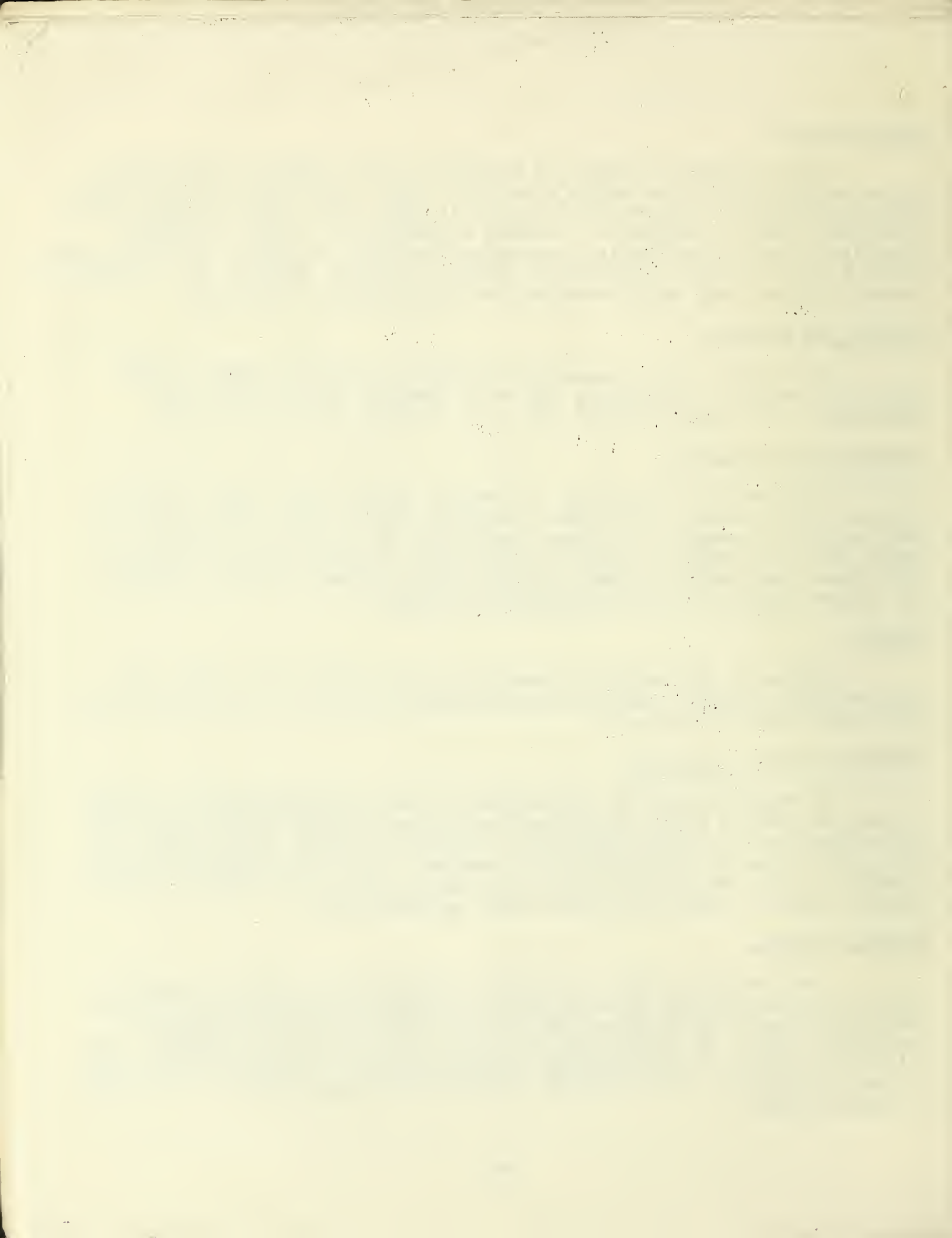
Shops in the area are governed by the Shops Act, 1934. The Monmouthshire County Council have delegated powers to the Council for the enforcement of the Act.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

A swimming pool on the Bullmoor Road is maintained by private enterprise and is well supervised during the bathing season. The pool is equipped with modern mechanical filtration. Prior to entering the pool, the water is chlorinated and aerated. During the summer months a sample of the water was taken for analysis and the analyst's report stated that the sample water was most satisfactory.

Rodent Control.

Much has been done to prevent infestation by rats. Measures taken to prevent major infestations on Council property were carried out periodically as there was no regular rodent operator engaged during the year. The disinfection is carried out in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Agriculture. A supply of rat bait is kept available at the Council Offices and issued free to the public on application.



Cemetery.

Efforts are being made by the Council to provide a new cemetery. Difficulty has been met in providing a suitable access into a trunk road from a site purchased in 1939 for a cemetery.

Milk Supply.

Inspection of cowsheds and dairies were carried out in accordance with the Milk and Dairies Order 1926, but many farms are without a wholesome water service and endeavours are being made to have a piped main service.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

(1) Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

- | | |
|---|------|
| 1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 98. |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. | 120. |
| 2. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | 0. |
| 3. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under (2) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation, - | 0. |

(2) Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notice.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority, or its officers. | 30. |
|---|-----|

(3) Action under Statutory Powers.

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936. | |
| (a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. | 2. |
| (b) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice. | 2. |
| 2. Proceedings under Public Health Acts. | |
| (a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. | 6. |
| (b) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice. | 6. |

3. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition orders were made. 0.
- (b) Number of dwelling houses which were demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. 0.
4. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.
- (a) Number of separate tenements or under ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. 0.
- (b) Number of separate tenements or under ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. 0.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND BAKEHOUSES.

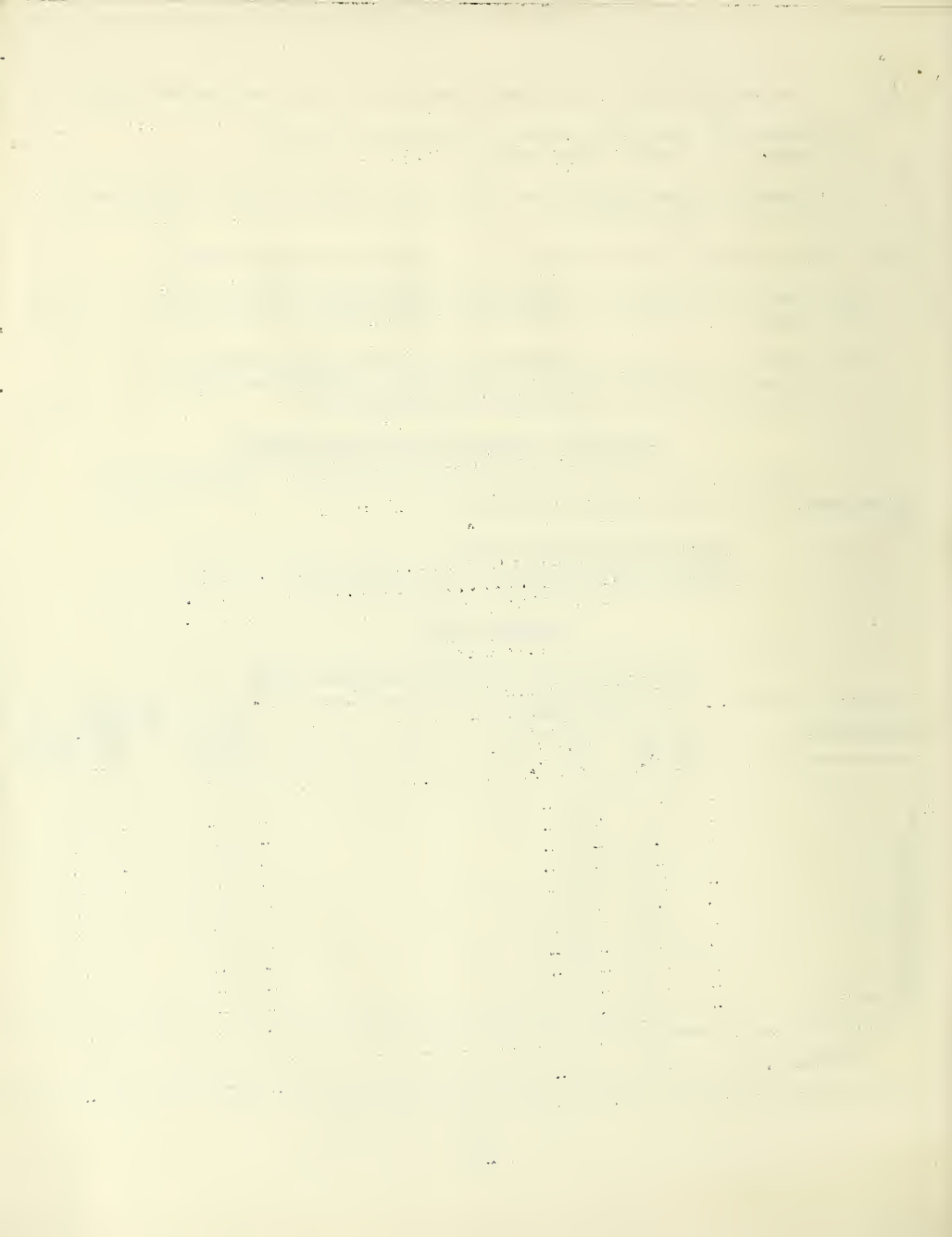
Three inspections of Registered Factories, workshops and Bakehouses were made during the year.

Sanitary defects found 1.
 Defects remedied 1.
 Insufficient sanitary accommodation 1.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1948.

| Age Period. | New Cases. | | | | Deaths. | | | |
|-------------|------------|----|-----------|----|---------|----|-----------|----|
| | Resp. | | Non-Resp. | | Resp. | | Non-Resp. | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 20 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25 | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| 35 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 45 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 55 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65 and up. | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Totals ... | 1 | 3 | 3 | - | - | 1 | - | - |



PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER
DISEASES.

Measles. There was an epidemic of Measles at the end of the year continuing into the early part of 1949. In most cases it was not a severe illness.

Other infectious diseases were few.
There was no case of diphtheria or acute Poliomyelitis.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

(OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING 1948.

| Disease. | Total cases notified. | Admitted to Hospital. | Deaths. |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| Small Pox. | - | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever. | 7 | 7 | - |
| Diphtheria. | - | - | - |
| Enteric Fever, incl: Paratyphoid. | - | - | - |
| Puerperal Pyrexia. | - | - | - |
| Pneumonia. | - | - | - |
| Measles. | 47 | 4 | - |
| Dysentery. | 1 | - | - |
| Whooping Cough. | 1 | - | - |

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Periodic inspections of foodstuffs have been made during the year.

UN SOUND FOODSTUFFS.

The following unsound foodstuffs have been surrendered and destroyed.

| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Tins of milk | 3 |
| Tins of meat | 9 |
| Tins of fruit | 8 |
| Tins of vegetables | 33 |
| Tins of fish | 1 |
| Meat | 61½ lbs. |

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

EVELYN D. OWEN.

Medical Officer of Health.

